

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1903.

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ous in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Time for a New Municipal Policy. It is not the State Railroad Commission's business to regulate the traffic of this city: but if these worthy gentlemen hold and divulge sensible views thereon, they are as much entitled to attention as other citizens. The commission's report, published on Saturday, contained an inordinate amount of enlightenment upon the subject of our street railroads. It showed to what a lamentable extent the public itself is directly responsible for the difficulties now complained of:

And so with the surface lines. Every attempt to lay a new track or make a new connection was mounced as 'a grab;' the city has paid the full cost of the widening of Fifty-ninth street between Fifth and Eighth avenues, as it will also for the widening of Fighth avenue on Central Park West. and for the widening of Fifty ninth street east of Fifth avenue, notwithstanding the street railway ompany was ready and offered to pay the whole expense. And it should be borne in mind that the company did not seek to lay down any new tracks in these widened thoroughfares, but only to help a freer car movement by giving greater room for

"The board might multiply examples and give ome very specific instances to show that there has been a petty, demagogic policy persistently pursued against all interurban railway enterprises in New York city, probably instigated by and dating, of course, from the Broadway Railroad scandal in 1884, and that the tendency has been to treat the orations as the public enemy. To this very combination of circumstances are in some degree due the difficulties and the backwardness and the

Theoretically, to bite off one's nose is an impossibility; yet practically New York has accomplished it in respect to its own facilities for transportation. Grudging the dollar that would have flowed into the coffers of the street car companies, the city has deliberately sacrificed millions of dollars' worth of convenience and benefit to the general public. An era of common sense of the kind displayed by the State Railroad Commission may work wonders.

Is there a man in town to dispute the soundness of these conclusions concerning the betterment of interborough communication?

" It is the judgment of this board that at leas two new lines of underground rallway, wholly in Manhattan and The Prons, and three new bridges or tunnels between Manhattan and Prooklyn and Queens, should be at once begun. Unless some comprehensive work along these lines is forthwith undertaken and carried to completion with despaich, the city will find itself beset by stagnated traffic difficulties and dangers which will completely overshadow even the hard conditions which are to-day regarded as lutolerable."

To give this sensible scheme more than an academic interest, a heroic policy on the part of the city is necessary, and

To-day probably no city in the world is in sorer straits, in proportion to its needs and possibilities, for money for improvements. Our inadequacies press on every hand and in every department of the city government. The Constitutional limitation of our debt renders us almost helpless. Yet the present barriers to growth could be swept away. and everything now in sight of our ambitions made attainable, if we should abandon the narrow-minded and socialistic scheme of municipal ownership of the underground roads and arrange for their transfer to private enterprise in the old-fashioned way.

If that should be done, New York would be able again to proceed to the building of works that are legitimately part of the city's province to build, with the free hand that comes from the fat purse.

Woman Suffrage in New Hampshire. On March 10 the voters of New Hamp-

shire will have the opportunity of recording their votes upon that clause of the proposed new Constitution which gives equal right of suffrage to women. The submission of this proposed amendment will be the culmination of an extensive agitation not only in New Hampshire, but throughout New England and dependence is put, alike by the advocates and the opponents of the change, upon the previous record of Rhode Island when a similar Constitutional amendment was offered to the voters of that State.

In April, 1887, there was submitted to the Rhode Island voters an amendment which gave women the right " to vote in the election of all civil officers and on all questions in all legal towns, districts or ward meetings," subject to the same qualifications, limitations and conditions as were applied to men. The vote was 6,889 in favor and 21,957 against. The adverse majority was certainly decisive, and if duplicated in New Hampshire would leave the advocates of female suffrage in a small minority next month.

But the supporters of female suffrage declare that the vote of Rhode Island is of no account, for the reason that at the election at which the amendments were rejected there 6,000 electors declared no preference, and a majority of these voters were presumably not hostile to the project of extended suffrage. Rhode Island had, too, at the time a restricted suffrage under a poll tax not abolished until the year following. As one of the results of that change the vote of Rhode Island, then \$5,000, is 400W 60,000.

Between 1887 and 1903 the agitation which has been carried on for female suffrage in New England and elsewhere has been generally favorable to the extension, and New Hampshire, like subtle and unconquerable antagonist, to From the North of England a report has

Massachusetts, now accords the right of suffrage to women at school elections. It is under these circumstances that the advocates of the amendment are encouraged to expect a large vote for it, if not, indeed, its adoption.

The four States which have adopted woman suffrage are in the West and have a predominating male population, as shown by the last Federal census: Wyoming, 63 per cent.; Idaho, 58; Colorado, 55, and Utah, 51 per cent.

Lincoln and the Negro Vote.

The Rev. Mr. CONWAY and other correspondents have an undoubted right to suppose that if ABRAHAM LINCOLN had lived longer he might have reversed his earlier opinion as to the hopelessness of social and political equality between the white citizens of the United States and the negroes. But no evidence of such a change in his views has yet been presented to us.

The last concern of LINCOLN with regard to the future of the emancipated race was for the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment, which put the abolition of slavery into the Constitution. That and the perfect restoration of the Union of States were the great objects which occupied his mind during the last few months of his life.

The Fourteenth Amendment, which made the negroes citizens of the United States, was not proposed by Congress until he had been dead more than a year. The Fifteenth Amendment, declaring that the right of citizens to vote should not be abridged on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude, was not proposed by Congress until ABRA-HAM LINCOLN had been dead nearly four

A correspondent favored us the other day with a copy of a letter said to have been written by Mr. LINCOLN in March, 1864, to the Union Governor of Louisiana, wherein the President suggested the idea that some of the negroes, " as, for instance, the very intelligent, and especially those who have fought gallantly in our ranks," might with advantage be let in " to the election franchise.

Mr. CONWAY and our other friends will see at a glance that this tentative suggestion is as far as were Lincoln's remarks six years earlier in the debate with DougLas from indicating that he believed in the principle of the negroes' political right to the ballot. For the question with him was as to the expediency of conferring the suffrage in special cases as a concession to exceptional intelligence and a reward for military services, not of granting it as a right of equal manhood.

The point, however, is not whether Mr. LINCOLN changed his opinion, or whether he would have changed it if he had lived longer. It is whether his original judgment that racial differences made political and social equality impossible has been confirmed by the results of the actual experiment of nearly forty years.

The other day we made our compliment to the Hon. HENRY J. ESSLER, soldier, sailor, miner, who at 106 is working a 200-acre farm in Wisconsin with the help of just one hired man. We called him The Happiest Man in the World because he has never been sick and has never worried; and we deny that if it should be adopted, the troubles that | there is any good reason why he shouldn't new hamper our development, with the live to be 206. Opportunely one of our threat of choking it wholly, will disap- | fellow amateurs of longevity sends these ords of encouragement and corroboration, which we commend to all who have taken their first degree in the Century School and have the pluck to enter upon a postgraduate course of another hundred years:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The account to-day's SUN of a man 200 years old, the case being authenticated by documentary evidence, will probably receive little credence. However, it reminds me of one other extreme instance which I quote for what it is worth. According to the parish register of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, London, THOMAS CAM died Jan. 18, 1588, aged 207 years. The following is a verbatim copy of an extract obtained in 1832:

" 1588. Burtilles. Fol. 35. THOMAS CAM Was suriel ye 22 inst. of Januarye, aged 207 years. Holywell street. GEORGE BARROW, Parish Clerk. It thus appears CAMWas born in 1381 in the fourth of RICHARD II.; and lived through that reign, and those of HENRY IV., HENRY V., HENRY VI., EDWARD IV., EDWARD V., RICHARD III., HENRY VII., HENRY VIII., EDWARD VI., MARY and to the thirtieth of ELIZATETH.

"('n a long freestone siab in Caercy Church, near Cardiff, in the county of Glamorgan, is this inscription in capitals round the ledge: 'Here lyeth the body of WILLIAM EDWDS, of the Caircy, who departed this life the 24 of February, Anno Domini, 1668. Annoque atails sur 168. And on the body of the stone;

'O, happy change! And est blest When preefe and pain is Changed to rest"

" The foregoing is taken from the Penny Mage-

"I understand that a deputation from this country visited Great Britain a few years ago in order to look up some exceptional cases of longevity, with what result it would be interesting to learn. EDWDS's case appears genuine, and so does the comparatively recent case of Dr. WILLIAM MEAD, whose tombstone is to be seen at Ware, Herts, and whose years -140 odd-are given with the odd mouths, weeks and days.

" NEW YORK, Feb. 13." It is useless to ask the sceptics to believe in middle-aged men, like CAM or even in boys like Dr. MEAD and BILLY EDWARDS. These comparativ ly modern instances are as mythical to the doubters as the Bible patriarchs of the nine-hundred-year class. Well, this is the age of statistics and this is the age of centenarians. It is not worth while to take the trouble to live to be 200 or so to be called a liar for your pains after you are gone, and to have your tombstone sneered at by those singular persons who take it as a personal affront if anybody dares to last to a good, round age. Nobody wants them to live; why are they so hot against people who are of the stuff that endures? The registers of vital statistics can be depended upon, we suppose; or will the anti-longevity cranks of 2103 throw doubt upon the accuracy of the

twentieth century statisticians? Our interest in the matter is due to an admiration of genius, whatever be it was explained to him that he would the field of its display. To live to a great age, to be preëminent among next three years said to the Magistrate millions and to resist longest Death, the

stand up against the old scoundrel and keep him from his own for a century or two is to show a rare quality of head and body, some mysterious superiority and a quiet strength of will. Of the good or evil fortune of living to be very old we need not speak. Many of the old are satiate of life; sick of decay, sad to have survived their contemporaries or dimly conscious of being a burden to their relatives. They are weary of the play; and they droop or worry themselves into the grave. But there are miraculous constitutions and temperaments, meant to live and to enjoy; hearty and happy at an age deemed preposterous by the feeble and more ephemeral. It strikes us that a perfectly healthy man, reasonably curious and intelligent, prudent and a little selfish, may get a good deal of satisfaction by watching the world go round, seeing the changes, the inventions and accumulating experience. Take GOETHE, for instance, a man who enjoyed himself in many ways for many years. At 150 GOETHE with his mind would have been a sort of god.

May we give one or two practical directions to beginners? Don't worry when you get to be 99. That is a fatal age for many deserving seniors. They have set their hearts on being 100 and die from excitement and anxiety lest they be cut off before making a record. We remember an Oldest Living Graduate, one of our predecessors in an honor that we and so many others have selected for ourselves. He didn't bother about his health, but about that of friends a little younger than himself. "JOHN is not ooking at all well," he would say: " I'm afraid he won't last till spring. He has a weak stomach on the mother's side." WILLIAM drinks too much and takes too big drinks. You've got to be moderate when you get along in life." This old boy could climb a tree when he was 100. Another piece of advice: Buy an annuity. Then you have something to live for. One more note: While most old folks get thin and look small and dried up, there are oaks of the forest that last. Did you notice that Capt. JOHN STICKNEY of Newburyport died Saturday? He voted on the last election day, which was the one hundred and first anniversary of his birthday. He was " a large, well-preserved man, six feet tall, and during his latter years weighed over 200 pounds." Big and little have their

President ROOSEVELT and President ELIOT are urging folks to be born. Well, when they are born, we urge 'em to last.

Blacklisting the Drunkards.

The new Licensing act, which was passed last year by the British Parliament, has been operative since Jan. 1. As it represents the strongest effort ever made to prevent excessive indulgence in intoxicating drink short of legislation embodying total prohibition, it is worth while to mark its principal features and the effect of their enforcement.

By way of preface, we may recall the fact that as early at 1606 " the loathsome and odious sin of drunkenness," to use the words of the act passed at that date, was made a statutory offence, and punished by a fine or confinement in the ute book until 1872, when the Licensing | bill! He does not tell us. act of that year made it an offence, punishable on summons by fine, to be found drunk in any public place or on any licensed premises. This law proved ineffective to restrain the sale of liquor to habitual drunkards, because the liquor seller could claim that the drunkenness was not caused on his premises, and the burden of proof lay on his accusers. The new law shifts the burden of proof. If a man is seen to come staggering out of a public house the liquor seller must account for the phenomenon and show his innocence if he can. He is deemed guilty till he can prove himself innocent.

This provision has provoked great indignation among the liquor sellers, who protest that it is impossible to tell how near drunkenness a man may be; that often it is only the last glass that affects him, and that he may not show his drunkenness till he gets out in the fresh air. Let us say, they argue, that a man has taken ten or twenty glasses of whiskey elsewhere, and merely takes his last drink on our premises; is it reasonable to make us bear the whole penalty for his drunkenness? There is no doubt, however, that this feature of the act has had the effect of making liquor sellers exceedingly wary, and has thus answered the purpose of the legislators, who desired to make the procurement of drink

by drunkards difficult. We should add that the conviction of a liquor seller not only subjects him personally to punishment, but affixes a bad mark to the public house, and where there are three such marks the license may be forfeited. This is a new and drastic provision, for formerly if a new man took over licensed premises the marks did not count against him and

the license was continued. A still more efficient check to drunkenness is applied by a clause of the new act under which any person, male or female, found drunk in any public place, public building or public vehicle may be arrested by any one. If when arraigned before a Magistrate the offender is pronounced an hab'tual drunkard within the meaning of the act, the drunkard is informed that it will be an offence for him to obtain, or attempt to obtain, at any club or licensed premises any intoxicating liquor for a period of three years. It will even be illegal for him, either personally or by deputy, to buy a bottle of wine or spirits at a grocer's shop. Meanwhile, all licensed persons and secretaries of clubs within the area in which the court is situated are furnished with the means of identifying the proscribed person, and informed that if drink is supplied to the offender heavy fines will be inflicted on those who supply it. The result is that wherever he is known the offender is absolutely shut off from alcohol. The depressing effect of such a prohibition upon habitual drinkers may be imagined. One arrested person when not be able to get a drink again for the "Why don't you hang me at once?"

been published that a blacklisted drunkard committed suicide rather than continue to face further isolation from

alcohol. As might have been expected, the new act has thrown a great deal of extra work upon the police courts, but, eventually, a marked diminution in the charges of drunkenness may be looked for. There is no doubt that the law is being rigorously enforced in the large cities, but it carried out in the small country towns and rural districts, where the little public house cannot exist if tippling and drunkenness are prevented. Even in the large cities, of course, the law does not reach the quiet drinker, who, by remaining at home, avoids arrest and the chance of being placed on the blacklist of habitual offenders.

The Melancholy End of the Great Littlefield Bill.

It is just six months next Wednesday since the Hon. CHARLES E. LITTLEFIELD, then the most conspicuous of living trustbusters, declared in the pride of his acknowledged preëminence and the joy of his mission:

"Unless this bill that I have introduced is reported at the next session of Congress and becomes law, I will be prepared to give to my constituents the reason why."

We are quoting now from Mr. LITTLE-FIELD's speech at Bar Harbor on Aug. 18, 1902. A few days later, at Biddeford, he predicted that the next session of Congress would "pass a law forcing every trust to show its hand and make public its cash value and business;" and. in the possible event of failure, he repeated the significant words, " or you shall know the reason why."

Almost every aspect of life and of human emotion has been reflected at some time or another in the varied pages of the Congressional Record; but when did that journal ever chronicle a more pathetic incident than the final spectacle of Mr. LITTLEFIELD, alone, unsupported, repudiated by the trust-busters formerly associated with him, pleading to obtain the poor privilege of even one minute's time for the statement of his views on the great subject of his last summer's laborious cogitation?

We quote now three successive passages from the Congressional Record of

Mr. LITTLEFIELD-Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield a moment to me? " Mr. DALZELL-Are you going to speak for the

rule or against it? " Mr. LITTLEFIELD-I am going to make an in quiry of the committee in reference to a suggested amendment of this bill.

Mr. DALTELL-I cannot yield to the gentleman or that purpose."

" Mr. LITTLEFIELD-Let me finish my question, " The Speaker-The time of the gentleman from

Illino's has expired. [Laughter.] " Mr. Cannon-I cannot even answer the gen leman's [Mr. LITTLE+IELD's] question. My time

has expired. " Mr. RICHARDSON-I yield to the gentleman from Maine one minute to continue his inquiry of the gentleman from Illinois. "

" Mr. GROSVENOR-The gentleman from Tennessee has been, as usual, general in his statement.

stocks. This law remained on the stat- | What amendment does he propose to put upon this Mr. RICHARDSON-The Littlefield bill, which we have passed. "Mr. GROSVENOR-The gentleman would put into

> and HARRY'S bill. in order to stir up trouble anywhere if he can only disturb the peace. (Laughter and applause upon the Republican side. Thus the Littlefield trust-busting bill, the child of hope and zealous thought and confident prediction, sank out of

sight in the Fifty-seventh Congress, the object in its last moments of contumely, contempt and general derision. Its author, the triumvir of last summer. was able to secure a hearing for sixty seconds only through the charity of a political adversary. The forthcoming statement from Mr.

LITTLEFIELD to his constituents ought be interesting.

Nobody can read Chief Judge ALTON B. PARKER'S speech at the Colonial Club dinner a trying occasion in some respects-without adding at least fifty per cent. to his previous estimate of Judge PARKER's dignity, tact and common sense.

It is a happiness to answer this affectionate inquiry after the Pilduzer Canary:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! What has scome of our esteemed friend, DATHTRAMB DICK, who so littingly pours forth his soul in poetle prose We long to hear another sone MARTLAND." NEW YORK, Feb. 14.

The sap begins to stir. The feathers of the song-coat flutter. There is a quiver in that sweet, dividing throat. The Ground Hog hears the first faint note and begins o run in ever swifter circles in pursuit of his own tail. The Lyric Jackass in his far off paddock rushes madly against the barbed-wire fence and breaks into what Mr. DICE calls a vibrant, ululant and plangent cry. A wild glare and stare leaps from the sea-green orbs of WALT WHITMAN, the good gray cat. He starts. He rushes.

Sure as cats, he is going to have a fit. When WALT WHITMAN has a fit, DITHY-RAMB DICK will make another fit of song. The shingles of his bower in Pilduzer will sprout and flower. Bursting from his winter sleep, kicking his hibernaculum into smithereens with his trochaic feet, he will rise into the heaven of song, caper in the empyrean, let loose the fixed stars, tickle the comets with their own tails and fill the world with melody and feathers.

The report that DITHYRAMB DICK has gone into the pastoral poetry trust with Gen. Sambo Bowles of Agawam is a base and bald-headed lie.

The following consolatory remarks are ddressed by the Providence Journal to Mr. LITTLEFIELD:

"His prominence for several months as a would he trust regulator has given him importance both at Washington and in his own State. To Maine onle he is now one of their foremost sons. they have a higher honor than his to give to a fellow citizen, they may not overlook him."

That cannot be what he was after. Mr. HALE's term runs to March 4, 1905, and then he will be only 68. Mr. FRYE's term does not end until 1907. Mr. LITTLEFIELD is a trust-buster by conviction, not for political advantage.

Mr. Astor Discovers Mr. John Choate. From the Fall Mall Casettr. Among those who have accepted invitations to

OUR SALES TO SOUTH AMERICA.

parison With the Volume of Imports. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Until we have lines of American vessels sailing frequently and regularly to all the South American ports of importance, we are not likely to make any better showing than the following, which records our entire sales of domestic merchandise to that continent

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America in 1902, of \$28,000,000. While we are waiting year after year on Congress to come to our relief, other nations are taking away the business of these next-door neighbors of ours. Our yearly sales ought to be at least as much as we bought from South America last year, \$119,000,000.

To make matters worse, we are paying foreigners for carrying 92 per cent. of the the "great American hog" being represented down there by only \$391 worth! And fertilizers, another of our specialties, by only \$473 worth. What a paradox! The United States

the greatest manufacturing nation on earth, buying \$119,000,000 from a group of nonmanufacturing nations and paying out cash for all but \$39,000,000 of it. In this case "Uncle Sam pays the freight," and the bill We ought to be as successful in keeping

European goods out of South America as we are in keeping out European soldiers. We need a commercial Monroe Doctrine WALTER J. BALLARD. SCHENECTADY, Feb. 14.

Washington and Lincoln.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: On President Lincoln's death the London Times published an editorial article in which it remarked how greatly he (Lincoln) had grown and his shoulders broadened under the increasing heaviness of the burden he had to beer. It would be a mistake, I think, to build a theory of Lincoln's opinion about the white and colored races on the extract from an early speech recently cited in THE SUN by my friend, Judge Pryor. The stump speaker in a campaign was different from the Presi-dent educated by a terrible war.

In May, 1775, George Washington, on his way to Congress, met the Rev Jonathan Boucher of Annapolis in the middle of the Potomac; while their boats paused the clergy-man warned his friend that the path on which he was entering might lead to separation. Washington said: "If you ever hear of my joining in any such measures you have my leave to set me down for everything wicked." this bill 'the Littlefield bill,' and any Tow, Dick

(Notes and Queries, series 3 and 5). namely, on Jan. 31, 1776. Washington wrote more such flaming arguments as were ex-Falmouth and Norfolk, added to the sound doctrine and unanswerable reasoning contained in the pamphlet 'Common Sepse,' will not leave members at a less to decide upon the propriety of separation NEW YORR, Feb. 14. MONCURE D. CONWAY.

Marcus Whitman.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your issue of the 11th inst., you published a letter, not now before me, which complained of the issue by the United States Government of a book or books about Marcus Whitman and Oregon. In regard to the statement of the writer of the letter that such book or books contained slanderous statements, I have no word to write. But his assumption that Whitman, or the Marcus Whitman who is claimed to have saved Oregon is a myth, and that Prof. Bourne of Yale has found him such, is likely to be assalled. The Sunday School Times last summer issued a call to every one who knew anything of Whitman to send the information to that paper. The replies came in volumi nously and this paper has published for the past eight months much pointed and valuable thing for The Sun to reestablish, if it instly can, the old reputation of Marcus Whitman as having done something substantial toward securing Oregon for the United States?

Have not his claims been investigated by three States, and did they not unite recently to bonor him?

FEB. 12. first-hand evidence. Would it not be a good

Lincoln After Thirty-eight Years.

From the Schoolmaster. In the long distance of time and death the rough form of Abraham Lincoln rises to an altitude of human grandeur amazing and sublime. And yet his stately personality reached no such summit of regard while he lived. How volatile is contemporaneous opinion! Achievement, nobility, char acter; the career of a man-years of courage-year of kindness years of expressionless sorrow and the reward martyrdom. How swiftly calumny rises to the top and charity sinks in insignificance when the great wave of ingratitude grows into a whiriwind of hate. A man who won the admiration of angels, crowned with the world's applause.

Too late for him to wear. He was the dying figur

of a gloomy magnificence. He is not here, while history writes down the love of the human race. in memory re"choing while creation lasts—it marble and in bronze. These laurels of affection we wreathe around the tomb of our long-burled god, who stood where the lightning tore through the oaken valor of our age, amid the storm, weaponess against the conspiring malice of civilization Heart of Bethlehem broke upon the cross.

The Quick Lunch in London. From the Land.

Proposals have recently appeared in the daily press in favor of the inauguration of a system of suick lunches by which the busy man may have

a substantial midday meal served expeditiously the partaking of which shall occupy but a few mir utes. We do not heritate to sak that all our readers will impress upon their patients that the adoption of this proposal would be a wicked physiological step. The repair of the body is not a process to be trified with in this way; eating should not be done in a hurry. The demands of business may be pressing, but the demands of the body are in reality more serious. Just as by stoking a steam engine to cramming point the fuel burns badly and the intensity of the fire is lowered, so by bolting his cond the vital processes within a man's lody as fond the vital processes within a man's body are hindered rather than helped. Necessarily, food eaten rapidly escapes in a great measure the preparatory processes of digestion and sooner or late breakdown in the maltreated human machin

MR. KIPLING CRITICISED.

Do American Scal Poschers Lose Their A Wretched Showing of Exports in Com-Teeth in Bustan Quicksliver Mines?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: That able contributors to modern English literature undoubtedly true. Mr. Kipling is occasionally inclined, however, to carry poetic license beyond its legitimate scope. He is not always as sure of his facts as a writer must be expected to be nowadays, consider-ing the modern facilities for obtaining in-

In a poem called "The Rhyme of the Three Sealers," in the volume entitled "The Seven Seas," occur these lines:

For life it is that is worse than death, by force of the Russian law. To work in the mines of mercury that loose the

teeth in your jaw. The words occur in such a context as to imply that the Russian Government punished American sailors caught in the act of illegitimate seal catching on the east Siberian coast by condemning them to hard labor in

quicksilver mines As I shall try to show, it is highly improbable that punishment of this nature, namely. enforced labor in quicksilver mines, has ever been inflicted in the Russian Empire. either on Americans or others. The quick-silver mines of Russia are located for the Ekaterinoslav government, not far from the Black Sea. A very small amount, known as "Caucasus quicksilver," comes from th

most part in the Bachmut district of the Ekaterinoslav government, not far from the Black Sa. A very small amount, known as "Caucasus quicksilver," comes from the Dagestan government. In Siberia quicksilver occurs, so far as hitherto known, only as small deposits of ne economic importance. There is no record of its having been mined that the property of Russia of the United States, 1890, page 192, it is shown that Russia did not begin to produce quicksilver until that year. According to the "Collection of Statistics of the Mining Industry of Russia for the Fiscal Year 1896. Compiled From Official Data by A Loranski, St. Petersburg, P. P. Soikine, 1899. The Bachmut district is the only important producer.

The product steadily increased from the year 1897, when it was 1846 flasks (of 76½ pounds each), to the year 1896, when it was 18,855 flasks. The product of the United States in the same year was 30,765 flasks. It is to be presumed that since 1896 the Russian product has continued to increase. The mines belonzing to A Auerbach & Co furnish nearly the entire product. (Page 217 of the Russian work above quoted).

American sealers captured in illegal catching of seals on the Siberian coast of the Pacific would naturally be tried at Vladivestock. The distance from that port to the mines of Bachmut is very nearly 4,000 miles. If condemned to enforced mining labor, it is hardly likely that the seamen would be transported that distance. It is much more probable that they would be set working in the coll for the prisoners are not employed. The distance from the proposed of sallors would not be especially efficient.

If the prisoners are not employed in the quicksilver mines of South Russi

BROOKLINE, Mass., Feb. 14.

Objects to January Tax Bill.

Nathaniel A. Elsberg, Senate Chamber, Albany, N. Y .: MY DEAR SENATOR: Yours of the 6th inst. received. The detriment to the interest of the taxpayers of New York city by the passage of your bill. No. 113, will be far-reaching and severe. If the bill passes as now proposed it is so complicated that the people will not comprehend its scope until it becomes a law.

The result will be that after a payment of

a tax bill in 1964 only two months will elapse when the taxpayers will be compelled to pay another tax bill, or it will become an obligation against New York property holders, thereby complicating sales of realty. The only relief the taxpayer has will be a rebate of 3 per cent, interest. know that realty holders in New York pay

know that realty holders in New York pay 4 and 5 per cent, for the use of money for the purchase of real estate.

I would respectfully suggest that the way to properly obtain the results that Comptroller Grout proposes would be the gradual advance of the payment of taxes over a term of years; for instance, I would make the first year's taxes after this year payable the 1st of September, 1904; the next, Aug. 1, 1905; then July 1, 1906; next, June 1, 1907, May 1, 1908, April 1, 1909, March 1, 1910, Feb 1, 1911, Jan 1, 1912, Dec. 1, 1913 and Nov. 1, 1914. In this way you would obtain the desired result.

In this way you would obtain the result.

My dear Senator I hope you will consider this proposition seriously: for after all the hardships that property holders in the borough of Manhattan have to bear, first, by assuming the debt of the city of Brooklyn, second, by paving Brooklyn's taxes to the extent of \$18,000,000, third, by the enormous increase of assessed values this year, thereby increasing the tax bills of the majority of property holders 25 per cent. Yours with esteem.

New York, Feb. 10. NEW YORK. Feb. 10.

Sibley's Red Devil. From the Washington Post

Its metal fittings and custings glistening in the bright sunlight, the red devil of Representative Sibley every morning pokes its front up Capitol Hill. Steadily it moves up the incline, generally bearing a coterie of oig-brained members, whom Mr. has picked up along the way or called for at

has picked up along the way or called for at their own domiciles. The great machine, with its substantially upholstered seats, proceeds with all the magnificence and splendor of a triumphal car. for Mr. Sibley is now as much of a connoisseur in motor vehicles as he once was in horseflesh when he drove a span of the prettiest black horses that ever stepped up Pennsylvania avenue.

By the noon hour the red devil has disappeared uptown, but it comes again. Late every afternon Mr. Sibley emerges from the Capitol, and rare it is that more of the bigbrained members are not with him. The red devil begins to puff and snort Mr. Sibley grasps the wheel, they crast down the hill and pick a way toward home and dinner. No Jehu in Washington holds his seat more proudly than the Pennsylvanian as the champion chauffeur of the champion red devil of the Federal cipital. he Federal capital.

From the Chippewa Heralt. "

"Have you read," asked Hiawatha,
'How the daffy legislators
Have been iumoing onto kissing?
Have you seen the resolutions
Introduced by them to throttle I was often at the wigwam of her dad, the arrow maker, And you bet your under judies, Just improved each shains mom Like a bee, I slipped the honey From her rosy lips, and never Overloosed a bet, that a certain!

"Now I'm growing old and hardened.
Rut I have sweet recollections
Of the good old costy comer
In the arrow insker's wigwam.
And I don't begrudge to others
What I once was very fond of.
I'm not like those hoary headed
senators who can no longer
Feel a thrill of exultation
When their lips collide with others.
And who would therefore abolish
Osculation allogether.

The surest and best of Blood Purifiers is Jayne's

OIL FUEL IN LOCOMOTIVES. Western Railroad Men Say It's as Safe as

Coal, Maybe Safer. From the Los Angeles Times Some people have thought that crude oil should be prohibited in its use as fuel on locomotives because of the danger of ex-plosion and easy ignition in case of collision or other serious mishap. The recent cycle of accidents throughout the country, particularly in the West, where everybody is quite familiar with petroleum, has seemed

to accentuate the feeling against oil-burning

locomotives. In one or two instances serious

damage from fire has resulted, and reports

have made it appear that, immediately after

the crash, burning oil was quickly hurled over the wreck and flendish flames soon wrought complete destruction.

Experts have been discussing the danger of oil on locomotives lately, and their conclu-sions are to the effect that such fuel is not only not more dangerous than coal, but often

much less so.

Said a prominent Southern Pacific official of the operating department yesterday: "I am not talking to be quoted in the public prints, because the subject is somewhat technical and a trifle out of my line, but I do not hesitate for a moment in saying that the danger from oil as fuel on our locomotives is at a minimum, and that coal is no safer. In fact, when emergency arises, the engineer or fireman can quickly turn a valve and instantly put out the roaring flames in the fire box: whereas in the case of coal, there is always a bed of red-hot coals ready to make any acci-dent a dreadful holocaust. Of course, the same thing might happen with oil under the proper conditions, if the flow were not stopped

"Even then it might more often happen that the cold petroleum would extinguish the fire. Crude oil itself is not an explosive: when vaporized it will burn, but to vaporize it in the open is a difficult matter. Pour crude oil over a lighted torch, and the effect will a lighted torch into a tank of crude oil, and the flame will go out instantly; no explosion will ensue; the flame goes out because the

will ensue; the flame goes out because the cil is of such consistency that it is with difficulty vaporized, while it can burn only in that condition.

"Before the Southern Pacific decided to abandon coal on its engines, some interesting experiments were made in Los Angeles at the instance of General Manager Kruttschnitt, who at first seemed fearful of imminent danger from the use of oil. These experiments, however, convinced him that the new fuel was in no way an extra hazard to life or property.

ments, newever, convinced in the convergence of the was in no way an extra hazard to life or property.

"Of course, in a head-on collision, when two mammoth engines plunge into each other at terrific speed, they are quickly demolished, together with their tenders and everything else, while necessarily oil would be hurled in every direction-but saldom burning oil—and, if fire broke out, the oil would very easily burn along with the inflammable débris. But there is the possibility of killing the flams in the firebox that does not exist when coal is burned."

At this juncture it is interesting to know that an Arizona mechanic is reported to be in Los Angeles at the present time working on a device designed to stop the flow of oil in an engine automatically upon the least disturbance indicating serious complications. Such an invention is greatly desired by both railroads and travelling public.

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British Criticism of Dr. Lorenz. From the Lancet.

The mind of the public has recently, with the assistance of the daily press, been much exercised about the manipulative achievements of Prof. Lorenz. Knowing nothing of the nature of congenital luxation of the hip. the lay mind is ready to look upon the Lorenz method as a revelation—as the invention of a novel form of "bloodless" surgery destined to replace ordinary methods. We hear of hospitals being founded where bloodless surgery is to be practised and where no cutting instrument is ever to be used. It is difficult to say with whom these erroneous deas originate; probably in the daily press zeal has outrun knowledge and it is with a good intention that "the new method" has been boomed. For the due consideration of the best treatment of congenital dislocation of the hip it is essential to understand the etiology and pathology. In the vast majority of the cases of con-

In the vast majority of the cases of congenital dislocation of the hip joint the two bony surfaces which should enter into the joint are misshapen. This is in part due to an arrest of development and in part to an absence of the mutual moulding action between the head of the femur and the acetabulum. As a result the two bony surfaces do not fit and it is impossible in many cases to replace the head of the femur in the acetabulum, since there is no acetabulum to receive it, or so small and ill-developed a cavity that it is impossible to retain the head in position even when it has been replaced. For the it is impossible to realin the even when it has been replaced. For the relief of this serious deformity three methods of treatment have been devised. Mere hipbelts can hardly be considered curative, though by limiting the mobility of the head of the femur they do tend to improve the

of treatment have been devised. Mere alphelts can hardly be considered curative, though by limiting the mobility of the head of the femur they do tend to improve the sait.

The first attempts which aimed at being really curative were made by the elder Prayar, he was followed by Buckminster Brown. Their methods were not essentially different and consisted in extension, lasting many months, applied to the affected limb, and, later, passive movements were carried out. The results were hardly commensurate with the time and the assiduous attention required by the method, and at the present time it is almost entirely disused.

The next phase in the treatment was the adoption of an "open" method; the hip joint is cut down upon, the acetabulum is deepened, restraining muscles and ligaments are divided, the head is replaced, and the limb is fixed by a plaster of Paris splint. In some cases the misshapen head of the femur is pared down until it fits mere neatly into the acetabulum. This resthod was introduced by Hoffa and modified by Lorenz, and in suitable cases gives fair results. The dangers from sersis and hemorrhage are by no lit was originally introduced by Paci, but it has been modified by Lorenz, who has abandoned his "open" operation. It consists in forcibity breaking down the pelvic attachments of the muscles, especially the adductors, which resist the replacement of the head. Then by forcible abduction of the thigh the head of the femur is brought down into the position of the acetabulum. This is the sound of "the bone returning mio its socket," which has much impressed the popular mind. To retain the head at the acetabulum the limb is fixed by plaster of the head of the femur is brought down into the position of extreme abduction and the plaster splint is retained for six months. During this time the pressure of the head of the femur has a position of extreme abduction and the plaster splint is removed the extreme abduction slowly disappears without, it is said, any reproduction of the dislocation.

It would

The Transportation of Criminals.

TO THE POTTOR OF THE STN-Sir. The account your paper of the taking of Young to Sing Sing and the scene at the Grand Central Station records a disgrace to New York and the twentieth century. Why should the public be subjected to anything of the kind? It would seem to the writer that the State of New

York might afford a private prison car for the trans portation of criminals to the State's prison. The scenes at the Grand Central Station might have taken place in Paris during the "Terror." JAMES IT MAY. NEW YORK, Feb. 14.

Alabama's Coal.

From the Globe Democra! The report of the State Mine Inspector of the operation of Alabama coal mines in 1902 was made public to-day and shows the following data: Total the State, 10,328,783 tons, an increase coal output of the State, 10 over 1901 of 1,358,176 tons.

Hewitt-You're a liar. Jewett-You're a list. Both -We seem to be in pretty bad company.